

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COTONO 01878 190957Z

20

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 H-02 SS-15 NSC-05

/083 W

----- 042696

R 190900Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WSHDC 9093

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 1878

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EAIR, UR, DM

SUBJ:AEROFLOT INAGURATES COTONOU-MOSCOW AIR ROUTE

REF: COTONOU 1842 (NOTAL)

1. LONG-DISCUSSED AIRLINE SERVICE BETWEEN THE USSR AND BENIN WAS INAUGURATED NOV 17 WITH ARRIVAL OF A "TOUPOLEV 154" AT COTONOU AIRPORT. ACCORDING TO THE NOVEMBER 18 EDITION OF GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED DAILY "EHUZU", THERE WILL BE REGULAR FLIGHTS BETWEEN MOSCOW AND COTONOU WITH STOPS IN TRIPOLI AND NDJAMENA.

2. IN AN INTERVIEW PRINTED IN SAME EDITION OF EHUZU, BENINESE TRANSPORTATION MINISTER AHOUEYA NOTED THAT A COMMERCIAL AIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COTONO 01878 190957Z

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USSR AND BENIN HAD BEEN SIGNED ON DEC 17, 1975 BUT HAD NOT BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT UNTIL NOW ON ACCOUNT

OF THE RATIFICATION PROCEDURES REQUIRED BY BOTH THE SOVIET AND THE BENINESE GOVERNMENTS. MOREOVER, ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER, SUFFICIENT TIME WAS NECESSARY TO ARRANGE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL IN BOTH CAPITALS. AT THE SAME TIME, AHOUEYA SAID THAT AIR AFRIQUE, AS BENIN'S NATIONAL AIRLINE, IS THE FIRM ENTERPRISE WHICH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED TO EXPLOIT TRAFFIC RIGHTS GRANTED BETWEEN USSR TO BENIN.

3. COMMENT: LIKE ECONOMIC AID REPORTED REFTTEL, LATEST SOVIET MOVE IS EFFORT TO PUT INTO EFFECT A PROJECT PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON BUT NOT YET IMPLEMENTED. USSR PROBABLY HAS TIMED THESE STEPS TO COINCIDE WITH NOV 30 REVOLUTION DAY PREPARATIONS IN ORDER TO REAP ADDITIONAL PROPAGANDA BENEFITS BY MAKING TWO YEAR OLD AGREEMENTS APPEAR TO BE NEW INITIATIVES. THOMPSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR ROUTES, AIR SCHEDULES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COTONO01878
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760431-1227
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761131/aaaabalb.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COTONOU 1842
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AEROFLOT INAGURATES COTONOU-MOSCOW AIR ROUTE
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EAIR, UR, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006